(b) A Working Group constituted by the Ministry of Water Resources brought out in its report (1991) that an area of 2.46 million hectares is suffering from the problem of waterlogging in command areas, Statewise details are given in the enclosed statement. *{See* below)

(c) Programmes like National Water Management Project and Centrally sponsored Command Area Development Programme are being continued during the VIII Plan and these envisage efficient irrigation water management. Activities being undertaken under these programmes help in checking the problem of waterlogging, in the irrigatinn commands.

Statement

Statewise details of areasunderWaterhgging

Sl.No.	State	Statewise wate logged area in thousands hectares
1	Andhra Pradesh	266.40
2	Assam	..
3	Bihar	610.70
4	Gujarat	172.59
5	Haryana	249.00
6	Himachal Pradesh	0.20
7	Jammu & Kashmi r	1.50
8	Karnataka	24.54
9	Kerala	11.61
10	Madhya Pradesh	73.12
11	Maharashtra	15.35
12	Orissa	196.26
13	Punjab	200.00
14	Rajasthan	179.50
15	Tamilnadu	16.19
16	Uttar Pradesh	430.00
	TOTAL :	2455 96
	Million ha.	2.46

Decline in ground water level

5006. SHRI BHAGABAN MAIHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the gradual decline in the ground water level in the country;

(b) the steps taken by Government to check the fall in the water level; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The grajdual decline in ground water level in some parts of the country is attributable to several natural and human factors like heavy withdrawals exceeding replenishment, excessive run-off and variations in rain fall etc.

(b) and (c) Following steps have been envisaged:

(i) A model Bill for Control and Regulation of Graund Water has been prepared and circulated to the State Governments to check the excessive extraction of ground water by enacting suitable legislation.

(ii) The Central Ground Water Board has formulated a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to assist the State Governments in artificial recharge of ground water. The Scheme is in con. sulfation stage with concerned agencies.

(iii) Guidelines have been circulated to the State Governments for formulation of Area Specific Artificial Recharge Schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.

Survey conducted for ground water potential in Gujarat

5007. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Ground Water Board has conducted any survey in the State of Gujarat to assess the ground water potential;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) if not, whether there is any proposal to conduct a survey in the

lear tuture in the State, if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. V. RANGA-AYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Based on survey and exploration made by Central Ground Water Board, the ground water resources in the State of Gujarat have been assessed as 22,551.71 million cubic metre per year of which utilisable ground water resource is estimated as 19,169.12 million cubic metre per year. The Board has also drilled 822 boreholes in the State under the programme of scientific exploration of ground water.

(c) In addition, during 1994-95, the Board has set a target to carry out reappraisal ground water survey over an area of 12,851 Sq. k.m. and to drill 77 boreholes under the pitogramme of scientific exploration of ground water in Gujarat.

सौराष्ट्र-कच्छ क्षेत्र में भूमिगत जल की उपलब्धता

5008. **श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम** : क्या जल संसाधन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केंद्रीय भूमिगत जल बोर्ड ने सौराष्ट्र-कच्छ क्षेत्र में भूमिगत जल की उपलब्धता के सघन निर्धारण के संबंध में कोई सर्वेक्षण किया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका क्या परिणाम निकला है ;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इस क्षेत्र में निकट भविष्य में सर्वेक्षण कराए जाने का कोई प्रस्ताव है ;

(घ) क्या सरकार ने इस उद्देश्य के लिए कोई वित्तीय सहायता दी है ; और

(ङ) क्या सरकार ने भूमिगत जल की उपलब्धता के निर्धारण के वर्तमान प्रयास को रोक दिया है और यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

जल संसाधन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी.वी. रंगैया नायडू) : (क) जी हां।

(ख) केन्द्रीय भूमिजल बोर्ड द्वारा किए गए सर्वेक्षण और भूजल अन्वेषण से गुजरात के सौराष्ट्र-कच्छ क्षेत्रों में 7581.58 मिलियन घन मीटर प्रतिवर्ष भूजल संसाधन होने का पता चलता है ।

(ग) और (घ) विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में भूजल संसाधनों का आकलन करने के लिए सर्वेक्षण और अध्ययन जारी प्रक्रियाएं हैं । तथापि, पेयजल, आपूर्ति सहित विभिन्न प्रयोजनों के लिए भूजल का विकास एवं उपयोग राज्य सरकार द्वारा अपने स्वयं के संसाधनों से किया जाता है ।

(ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Major and Medium Irrigation Projects of Rajasthan

5009. SHRI RAJENDRA PRASAD MODY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the major and medium irrigation projects *of* Rajasthan lagging behind their original time schedule;

(b) the cost escalation as a result thereof; and

(c) whether Government proposes to fix a target date for the completion of these projects during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. V. RANGAY-YA NAIDU): (a) to (c) A state, ment showing details of on-going irrigation projects of Rajasthan in VIII Plan which are lagging behind the original time schedule is enclosed.

[See Appendix 173 Annexure No. 101].